

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/642,604

Examiner

Jon A Szumny

Applicant(s)

LIAO ET AL.

Art Unit

3632

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 8 19 03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-7.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 19 August 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

This is the first office action for application number 10/642,604, Pivot Coupler for Pivotally Connecting a Monitor to a Stand, filed on August 19, 2003.

Priority

Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

The application has been amended as follows:

On page 7, line 9, "much" has been changed to --much of--.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-7 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 1, the prior art taught various examples of pivot couplers each coupled between a monitor and a stand comprising a hinge base, a hinge bracket and a shaft inserted through a central hole in the hinge base.

However, the prior art failed to specifically teach the coupler to include:

a) a hinge base having a bottom wall fastened to the stand, and a cylindrical support horizontally extended on a top side of the bottom wall, the cylindrical support having a curved peripheral surface, a left side, a right side, a left locating recess formed in the center of the left side, a left packing piece set mounted in the left locating recess,

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a right locating recess formed in the center of the right side, a right packing piece set mounted in the right locating recess, and a central axle hole extended through the left locating recess and the right locating recess;

b) a substantially U-shaped hinge bracket comprising at least one mounting member, a left side plate, a right side plate, and a top plate, the at least one mounting member affixed to a back side of the monitor, the left side plate and the right side plate respectively suspended at two sides of the top plate and each having an inner face and an outer face, the top plate connected between said left side plate and said right side plate at a top side, a left through hole cut through the inner face and outer face of the left side plate, a right through hole cut through the inner face and outer face of the right side plate, a left washer mounted in the inner face of said left side plate, and a right washer mounted in the inner face of the right side plate, the top plate having a bottom face; and

c) a shaft inserted through the central axle hole of the hinge base, the left and right through holes of the hinge bracket, the left and right packing piece sets of the hinge base, and the left and right washers of the hinge bracket, the shaft having a stop block formed in one end thereof and stopped outside the outer face of the left side plate of the hinge bracket and a screw rod axially formed in an opposite end thereof and extended from out of the outer face of the right side plate of the hinge bracket and screwed up with a nut, keeping the left and right packing piece sets of the hinge base respectively disposed in contact with the left and right washers of the hinge bracket.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

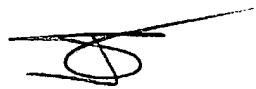
Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Anderson '142, Martin '694, Chen '794, Lu '830, Kim '628 and Tai '611 divulge various pivot couplers.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jon A Szumny whose telephone number is (703) 306-3403. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8-4.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application and proceeding are assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.



Jon Szumny
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 3600
Art Unit 3632
May 10, 2004



LESLIE A. BRAUN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER